

Remarks/Arguments

Summary

By this Amendment, claims 13 and 14 have been amended, claims 17 and 20 have been canceled, and new claim 21 is presented for the Examiner's consideration.

Claims 13-16, 18-19 and 21 are now pending in the application.

Informalities

By this Amendment, claim 14 has been revised to correct the typographical errors identified by the Examiner.

Further, by this Amendment, claim 13 has been revised to clarify that the material layers are removed by polishing, and to further clarify that at least one of "x" and "y" must be a positive integer.

35 USC 103

Claims 13-16 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Miyashita et al. (US 6354913).

However, this rejection has been rendered moot by incorporation of the subject matter of claim 17 (now cancelled) into independent claim 13.

Conclusion

No other issues remaining, reconsideration and favorable action upon the elected claims 13-16, 18-19 and 21 now present in the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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